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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Toshio OTA, ET AL : EXAMINER: YAO, L.

SERIAL NO.: 10/030,271

FILED: JUNE 28, 2002 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1642

FOR: APOPTOSIS-ASSOCIATED FACTOR

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated February 8, 2005, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I (Claims 1-8, 10-13, 20, and 25-41) for further prosecution.

## **REMARKS**

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

Group I: Claims 1-8, 10-13, 20, and 25-41, drawn to polynucleotides comprising

SEQ ID NO: 1 and 3, polynucleotides encoding proteins comprising the amino acid SEQ ID NO: 2 and 4, a complementary sequence to the

polynucleotide, a vector, and transformant comprising the

polynucleotide and method of using the polynucleotides to produce

protein;

Group II: Claims 9 and 21-24, drawn to proteins;

Group III: Claims 14 and 42-45, drawn to antibodies against the protein encoded

by SEQ ID NO: 2 and 4;

Group IV: Claims 15-18 and 46-50, drawn to an immunological assay and method

for screening a substance regulating apoptosis cell proliferation of cell

death;